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photo courtesy of Jane Kinney
Staff of the main NARP project library at Chitedze Research Station near Lilongwe, Malawi. (L-R) Margaret Kalinda, Wisdom Mvula, Mac Katsonga (seated), and Miliati Samsoni, with Kathy Wern, providing training.

STARTING FROM SCRATCH: BUILDING LIBRARY SYSTEMS AND A NETWORK IN MALAWI

by Jane Kinney

The Ministry of Agriculture in Malawi has been developing a network of specialized agricultural libraries since January 1986. The project, funded by the World Bank as a component of the Malawi National Agricultural Research Project (NARP), is considered unique in many ways, particularly in its use of information technology. This article presents some highlights in the development of an automated library system in a country where computers had never been used in libraries, and in a region that has had no access to public telecommunications networks.

THE PROJECT

Under the project, existing libraries at Malawi's three main agricultural research stations were to be organized and developed. Funding was provided by the World Bank for two technical assistants (a manager for the library system and a cataloger), a budget for purchase of library materials, supplies, binding, computers and other equipment, M.L.S. and in-service training for Malawians, and a new main library building. The scope of the project greatly expanded as the Ministry of Agriculture recognized the efficiencies that could be achieved through improved management of its existing resources. The system currently comprises eight libraries which offer information services to support the full cycle of agricultural development in Malawi, encompassing research, extension, and planning.

STRUCTURE OF THE SYSTEM

Each of the eight libraries in the system has a subject specialization. The system is united by a union catalog using INMAGIC software and operating on IBM microcomputers. Acquisitions, technical processing, and manage-

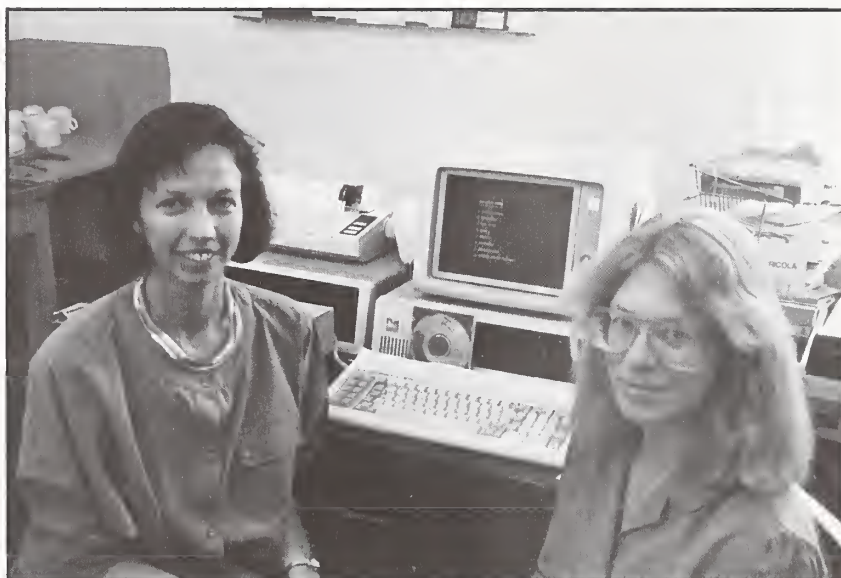


photo courtesy of Jane Kinney

Jane Kinney, project and library system manager, and Kathy Wern, cataloger, with their pioneering library tools, a computer and the AGRICOLA compact disk.

heretofore nonexistent. The librarians spend an increasing portion of their time demonstrating their system and advising librarians in other institutions on how to design records and files for automating their own bibliographic databases. Malawi's agricultural college, Bunda College, is planning to participate in the same union catalog, which would eventually make the database into a complete national documentation system in the agricultural sector. Bibliographic control of Malawi's agricultural documents and publications has taken a quantum leap forward, and many other institutions in the region, inspired by this experience, are following suit.

CD-ROM

The other important microcomputer technology that has been introduced to the region through this project is CD-ROM.

ment of the system is centralized at the main library, located at the Chitedze Research Station, near Malawi's capital, Lilongwe. Since use of modems is not feasible in Malawi, the union catalog is updated in the various sites by physically moving the data on floppy disks (eventually to be replaced by Bernoulli cartridges). However, not all branches will have computers in the near future. In order to mitigate this constraint, a book catalog (with author, title and subject indexes) is produced annually for sites without direct online access. The Library of Congress' acquisitions office for Eastern Africa, located in Nairobi, reports that this is the first book catalog produced in Africa that they have seen.

The database currently has approximately 2,000 records of nearly 4,000 volumes located in five of the eight libraries in the system. The libraries have a high incidence of overlap in their holdings, so future processing of materials is expected to proceed rapidly. Volunteer librarians from the Peace Corps and the British Voluntary Service Overseas have also been recruited to accelerate the processing of materials in branch libraries, while Malawian counterparts receive professional training abroad.

The use of computers in Malawi's agricultural library system to create a union catalog has received a great deal of attention in the southern African region, where such an automated system was

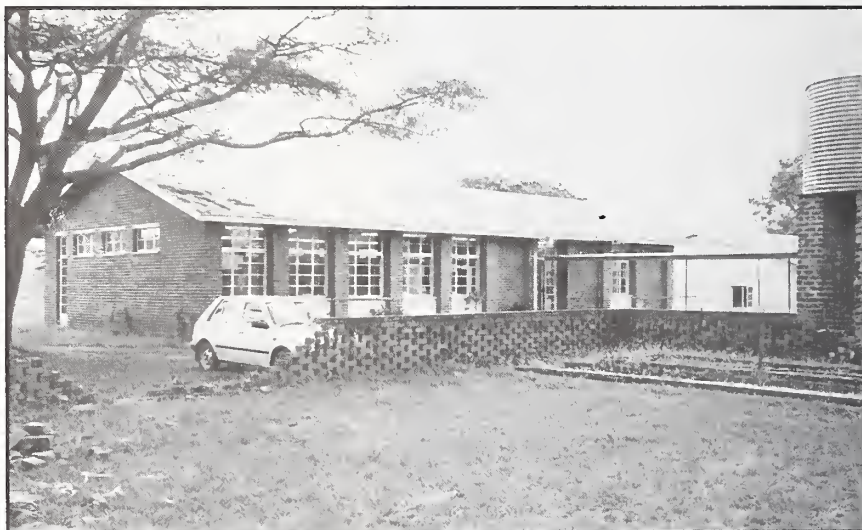


photo courtesy of Jane Kinney

(Above) The present library building and network headquarters at Chitedze Research Station. (Below) The new library under construction.



During the past year, reference services have been offered to users of the Chitedze Library using CD-ROM databases. Over two hundred searches were performed in the first year, and Malawi's experience has indicated that CD-ROM's impact in areas lacking telecommunications access to bibliographic databases is potentially more far-reaching than had been initially expected.

The main database used by the Chitedze librarians to date has been AGRICOLA on SilverPlatter's CD-ROM. AGRICOLA's coverage has proven very relevant to Malawi's agricultural research program. Research from U.S. universities on crops grown in Malawi, as well as research from international research centers and other African countries is accessible online for the first time.

Serious document delivery problems were expected to result from using CD-ROM in this part of the world,



photo courtesy of Jane Kinney
(L-R) Mac Katsonga, Miliati Samsoni, Margaret Kalinda, and Wisdom Mvula.



photo courtesy of Jane Kinney
(Above) Jane Kinney (second from right) provides training to Margaret Kalinda, Mac Katsonga, and Miliati Samsoni. (Below) Margaret Kalinda makes use of the computer and CD-ROM system in processing new materials and providing services for the research station and the network.



but they have not necessarily arisen. The combined resources of Malawi's two main agricultural libraries provide a relatively good core collection of agricultural journals. The librarians at both institutions are finding that AGRICOLA on CD-ROM has enabled them to exploit existing resources, including an extensive collection of U.S. State extension and research reports that had remained uncataloged in the library for over 50 years.

Chitedze's use of CD-ROM has generated a great deal of interest in library automation on the part of other libraries in the region. It has also greatly increased use of library services in the Ministry of Agriculture. Use of the library system doubled in the first year that CD-ROM was introduced.

Low status ascribed to the library profession has been a major problem in countries such as Malawi. It is hoped that CD-ROM and use of automation in general will help to raise the perceived status of librarians in this and other developing countries.

THE FUTURE

Automation initiatives and experiences in the Malawi project can serve as examples for library development components in future projects by the World Bank and other international development organizations. Closing the information technology gap between the Third World and the industrialized world seems more possible in light of Malawi's experience.



JANE KINNEY

Jane Kinney is a consultant to the government of Malawi providing direction and leadership in the development of its National Agricultural Research Project (NARP) under the sponsorship of the World Bank. Her original project was to establish a network linking three agricultural libraries at three research stations, but the network has been expanded to include eight libraries for planning, research, and extension, and will eventually include the Bunda College of Agriculture Library. Ms. Kinney began her work in Malawi in January 1986, and plans to continue at least through January 1989.

Ms. Kinney worked for the National Agricultural Library for three months in the summer of 1978 as a temporary employee assigned to Reference and special projects. She had completed her Master of Library Science at the University of Maryland at the time. A native of Ligonier, PA, she earned her B.A. in English Literature at the University of Arizona in 1976.

After her work at NAL, Ms. Kinney worked for Costabile Associates, a D.C. area consulting firm, for four years, much of it on contracts for the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID). For two and a half years she worked at the Agriculture and Rural Development Department of the World Bank and set up its library. She also served as a consultant to AID and worked on SPAAR, the Special Project on African Agricultural Research. With Jose-Marie Griffiths, she co-authored the report "Agricultural Information Needs and Services to Developing Countries," Rockville, Md: King Research, Inc., August 1985. It detailed ways in which NAL and AID could help agricultural researchers working in developing countries.

Earlier this year in Malawi, Ms. Kinney married Kenneth Meyers, an economist whom she met while she was working at the World Bank. He recently assumed a position



JANE KINNEY

photo: D. Starr

with the United Nations and is serving as Macro Economic Adviser to the Office of the President and Cabinet of Malawi, enabling the newlyweds to be together in Malawi.

The photograph at left was taken on a recent visit that Ms. Kinney made to NAL while in the U.S. on home leave and her honeymoon.

KATHY WERN

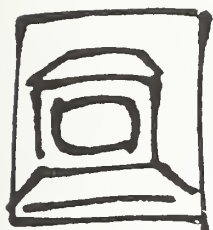
Kathy Wern is the cataloger for the Malawi National Agricultural Research Project at Chitedze Research Station. She is a graduate of the University of Maryland having earned her Master of Library Science in 1983. Her previous experience includes work in the Cataloging Section of the Joint World Bank-International Monetary Fund Library from 1982-83, and work for Costabile Associates on contracts at the Peace Corps, Radio Marti, and Veteran's Administration Libraries, and the National Library of Medicine.



photos courtesy of Jane Kinney

(Above) Jane Kinney and Kathy Wern. (Below) A Malawian construction crew works on the new library building.





AGRICOLA

NAL ANNOUNCES AGRICOLA & CRIS DATABASE WORKSHOPS FOR FALL 1988 THROUGH SUMMER 1989

NAL will conduct five 3-day basic AGRICOLA Database Workshops during Fiscal Year 1989: October 31-November 2, 1988; January 23-25; March 20-22; May 15-17; and August 21-23, 1989. NAL offers a 1-day CRIS Database Workshop on the day following the above workshops: November 3, 1988; January 26, March 23, May 18, and August 24, 1989. In addition to these basic workshops, NAL offers four 1-day Advanced AGRICOLA Database Workshops: December 12, 1988; February 17, April 17, and June 12, 1989.

To receive a brochure containing a registration form and a description of these workshops, fees, possible housing, and

(Below, L-R) Charles Bebee, Karl Schneider, and Susan Whitmore, the AGRICOLA/CRIS Workshop instructors, on a break between sessions.

photo: J. Swab



photos: J. Swab

(Above) An AGRICOLA Workshop in session; the three instructors are standing, Susan Whitmore (left), Charles Bebee, and Karl Schneider (right). (Below) Charles Bebee looks over the shoulders of a trio of workshop participants practicing search techniques online.

related information, contact:

**AGRICOLA/CRIS Training
Special Services Branch, Room 1402
National Agricultural Library
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351**

Or call (301) 344-3875.



TWO VENDORS OFFER NAL'S AGRICOLA ON COMPACT DISK

The National Agricultural Library announces that its AGRICOLA (AGRICultural OnLine Access) database is now available on CD-ROM (Compact Disk-Read Only Memory) from two commercial vendors, SilverPlatter Information, Inc., and OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Incorporated.

SilverPlatter Information, Inc., offers the complete AGRICOLA database from 1970 to the present on four disks: 1970-76, 1977-80, 1981-84, and 1984-present. CRIS (Current Research Information System) is planned for inclusion in disks issued in 1989.

OCLC has issued AGRICOLA on CD-ROM as part of its *Search CD450 Agriculture Series*. This series includes AGRICOLA, CRIS and AgMIL (a selected database of agricultural citations compiled from OCLC's Online Union Catalog). OCLC offers the AGRICOLA database on three disks covering 1979-82, 1983-85, and 1986-present (AGRICOLA/CRIS).

AGRICOLA, the computerized database of literature citations relating to all aspects of agriculture, currently totals over 2.5 million records. Available online and through magnetic tape since 1970 (and on CD-ROM since 1987), the database consists of records for literature citations of journal articles, monographs, theses, patents, software, audiovisual materials, and technical reports relating to all aspects of agriculture. Approximately 100,000 records are input annually.

CRIS (Current Research Information System) is produced by the Cooperative State Research Service, USDA. CRIS contains over 30,000 descriptions of current agricultural and forestry research projects of USDA and cooperating state institutions. Approximately 3,000 new project descriptions are entered annually.

For further information concerning subscriptions contact:

SilverPlatter Information, Inc.
37 Walnut Street
Wellesley Hills, MA 02181

Or call (617) 239-0306.

OCLC Electronic Publishing and Information Delivery
6565 Frantz Road
Dublin, OH 43017-0702

Or call (800) 848-5878.

For information concerning the AGRICOLA database, contact:

Gary K. McCone
Head, Database Administration Branch
National Agricultural Library, 5th Floor
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, MD 20705

Or call (301) 344-3813.

--Pamela Mason



**Food &
Nutrition**

FOOD AND NUTRITION INFORMATION CENTER REVISED ELIGIBILITY FOR DIRECT LENDING AND REFERENCE SERVICES

(Effective July 1, 1988)

As a part of the National Agricultural Library, the Food and Nutrition Information Center (FNIC) provides direct lending and comprehensive reference services to persons working for the U.S. Congress, Federal Government Agencies, and Libraries and Information Centers.

Through an interagency agreement with the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) of USDA, FNIC is able to expand the categories of users eligible for direct loan of books and audiovisuals, free photocopies of journal articles, and comprehensive reference/research services. This expanded group includes cooperators with FNS programs:

- Elementary and secondary schools and school districts (including teachers, nurses, and food service and media center staff)
- Nutrition Education and Training Program
- Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), and Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)
- Child Care Food Program (CCFP)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- State Departments of Health and Education

For those who do not fall into the above categories, (including some groups which previously had full service), FNIC materials may be obtained through interlibrary loan--check with your local libraries for this service. Comprehensive reference assistance is also available on a cost recovery basis. For more information, request a copy of the NAL User Fee Policy.

This policy is effective July 1, 1988. Lending arrangements made prior to the effective date will not be affected.

For additional information or to have questions answered, contact:

Food and Nutrition Information Center
National Agricultural Library, Room 304
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, Maryland 20705

Or call (301) 344-3719

--James Krebs-Smith

NAL EXHIBITS PHOTOGRAPHS ON CHINESE AGRICULTURE

The opening of an exhibition of photographs, entitled "Agriculture in China: A Visual Landscape," took place at 3:30 p.m. on July 25, 1988, in the lobby of the National Agricultural Library in Beltsville, Maryland. Secretary of Agriculture Richard Lyng and His Excellency Han Xu, Ambassador from the People's Republic of China, were the scheduled speakers at the dedication ceremony.

The exhibit was organized through the cooperation of the Chinese Embassy, the National Agricultural Library, and the Associates of NAL, Inc. It will be open to the public from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, except holidays, through September 30, 1988.

The exhibit focuses on a range of topics, including cultivation, science, production, marketing, the landscape, and the people who produce the agricultural wealth of the People's Republic of China. Through photos, artifacts, books, and descriptive captions, the exhibit provides the viewer with vivid images of agricultural development and family life in China's rural countryside.

For further information, contact:

Alan Fusonie, Head, Special Collections
National Agricultural Library, Room 1402
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, MD 20705

Or call (301) 344-3876.



**New
Bibliographies**

QUICK BIBLIOGRAPHIES

The bibliographies in this series are primarily computerized online as batch bibliographies emanating from searches performed by the NAL Public Services Division Staff in response to customer requests. Searches are selected for inclusion based on the currency of the topic, interest among clientele, and probable value to a larger audience. Unless otherwise specified, citations are from AGRICOLA. Revisions or updates will be renumbered and reannounced. Only one copy of a title will be sent; however, requesters may make copies. To request a copy of a *Quick Bibliography*, circle the desired title(s) below and send your request with a self-addressed label to:

Reference Branch, Room 111
National Agricultural Library
Beltsville, MD 20705

Q.B.--88-56. Gypsy Moth (*Lymantria dispar*) and its Control, 1979-April 1988. 308 citations; English only. Prepared by Jerry Rafats. June 1988. Updates 84-26.

Q.B.--88-57. Potential New Crop: Guayule, 1979-April 1988. 204 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Jerry Rafats. June 1988. Updates 86-11.

Q.B.--88-58. EC's Agriculture: Impact on World Markets, 1979-April 1988. 244 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Mary E. Lassanyi. July 1988.

Q.B.--88-59. U.S. Farm Policy, 1979-April 1988. 115 citations; English only. Prepared by Mary E. Lassanyi. July 1988.

Q.B.--88-60. International Rural Youth Issues, 1979-April 1988. 122 citations; English only. Prepared by M. Louise Reynnells. July 1988.

Q.B.--88-61. Agricultural and Farmer Cooperatives, 1979-April 1988. 297 citations; English only. Prepared by Patricia La Caille John. July 1988.

Q.B.--88-62. Allelopathy: The Effects of Chemicals Produced by Plants, 1983-May 1988. 294 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Henry Gilbert. July 1988. Updates 87-03.

Q.B.--88-63. Hydroponics/Nutrient Film Technique, 1982-May 1988. 233 citations; English only. Prepared by Henry Gilbert. July 1988. Updates 87-36.

Q.B.--88-64. Groundwater Contamination, 1985-May 1988. 346 citations; English only. Prepared by Henry Gilbert. July 1988. Updates 87-04.

Q.B.--88-65. Dryland Farming, 1982-May 1988. 258 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Henry Gilbert. July 1988. Updates 87-07.



ANIMAL WELFARE BIBLIOGRAPHIES

The Animal Welfare Information Center has just completed two bibliographies which are available for limited distribution: *Training Materials in the Collections of the National Agricultural Library relating to Animal Welfare*, compiled by K. Clingerman and J. Swanson; and *Audio Visuals in the Collections of the National Agricultural Library relating to Animal Welfare*, compiled by K. Engler and J. Swanson. Send requests for copies with a self-addressed label to:

Animal Welfare Information Center
National Agricultural Library, Room 301
Beltsville, Maryland 20705

For additional information, call (301) 344-3121.



New Serials Received at NAL

Advances in Legume Systematics. Kew, Richmond, Surrey, England: Royal Botanic Gardens. Pt. 1 -
QK495.L52A3

Annual Report/South African Wool and Textile Research Institute of the CSIR. Port Elizabeth, South Africa: The Institute. a. 1972 -
304.9 S083

Behavioral Medicine. Washington, DC: Heldref Publications. q. Vol. 14, No. 1 (spring 1988)-
RB152.J67

California Grower: Avocados, Citrus, Subtropicals. Vista, CA: Rancher Publications. m. Vol. 9, No. 9 (September 1985)-
SB379.A9A9

Encology. Bombay, India: Lavanya Prints Pvt., Ltd. m. Vol. 1, No. 1 (June 1986)-
TD169.E6

European Journal of Protistology. Stuttgart; New York: G. Fischer. q. Vol. 23, No. 1 (Nov. 1987)-
QL362.A1P7

Fishery Leaflet (microform). United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service. Washington, D.C.: The Service. Irregular. 1 (April 1941)-
Fiche S-121

IAT Bulletin. Summertown, Oxford (England): Institute of Animal Technicians. m. Vol. 11, No. 1 (January 1975)-
SF405.5.I5

INFOFISH International. (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: INFOFISH. b-m. No. 5/87 (September/October 1987)-
HD9450.1.I54

Journal of Pediatric & Perinatal Nutrition. New York, New York: Haworth Press. s-a. Vol. 1, No. 1 (spring/summer 1987)-
RJ206.J68

Quarterly Newsletter. European Aquaculture Society. Bredene, Belgium: The Society. Four issues yearly. No. 35/36 (March/June 1985)-
SH1.Q3

Trudy Instituta Genetiki i Seleksii. Baku: Izd-vo Akademii Azerba idzhansko i SSR. T. 1-
451 Ak124



photo: D. Starr
Margaret Morton, Library Division Director, Agriculture Canada, and Joseph Howard, Director, National Agricultural Library.

MORTON VISITS NAL

Margaret "Peggy" Morton, Library Division Director, Agriculture Canada, Ottawa, visited NAL on May 27, 1988. In addition to seeing demonstrations of the text digitizing project and other advanced technologies being investigated at NAL, Ms. Morton met with NAL's Director, Joseph Howard, and with other key NAL staff. Topics of discussion centered around increased cooperation between the two libraries, including Ag Canada's assisting NAL in acquiring Canadian publications and NAL's becoming the input center for Canadian literature into the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) database, AGRIS. The afternoon ended with an agreement to exchange additional information to advance the areas of cooperation discussed, and NAL's inviting the Ag Canada Library to join the Agricultural Libraries Information Network.

--Shirley Edwards

NAL ANNUAL REPORT 1987

The National Agricultural Library has prepared an *Annual Report 1987* primarily as an administrative report for internal use. A limited number of copies are available for those who request them. Send the request with a self-addressed label to:

Annual Report 1987
National Agricultural Library, Room 203
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, Maryland 20705

VISITING SCHOLAR McALLISTER-HARPER STUDIES TECHNICAL SERVICES COSTS AND VIDEODISK TRAINING FOR CATALOGERS



photo: J. Swab

DESRETTA
McALLISTER-HARPER

NAL is now benefiting from the expertise of Desretta McAllister-Harper, NAL's most recent Visiting Scholar, and the first to work in the Technical Services Division exclusively. She is devoting her time at NAL from June 1 through August 15 on two projects, which will also benefit her and her students at North Carolina Central University (NCCU) in Durham, where she is Associate Professor of Library and Information Sciences.

The first of the projects is a cost study to determine how

much it costs NAL to process an item. This project is being done in two parts, the first a retrospective study of costs based on NAL records for 1986-88, including monthly statistical reports, salaries, supplies, equipment purchases, etc. The second part is a study of how materials flow through the Acquisitions and Serials, Cataloging, and Indexing Branches, determining what is done to each item, how long it takes, and comparing the total flow of a typical week with that of another week used as a control. Every one of the Technical Services staff members will be involved at some level. Dr. McAllister-Harper expects to finish a report on this project during the Fall semester at NCCU where she has been released from half of her normal teaching schedule to have time to complete the NAL study and prepare the report. Later she will write an article or two for publication.

The second of Dr. McAllister-Harper's projects at NAL consists of participation in a program among the National Agricultural Library, the National Library of Medicine, and the Library of Congress to explore the possibility of using an interactive videodisk for training catalogers. Dr. McAllister-Harper is serving on the task force of the three national libraries, and is studying the feasibility of producing the videodisk and looking at the audience and subject mat-

ter. She has completed a literature search to determine what has been done in this area--nothing in library and information sciences--and has compiled a bibliography on videodisk technology tailored to the needs of the committee. She may also be working on project timelines, staffing requirements, and funding, depending on a positive decision by the three institutions to continue with the program.

At North Carolina Central University, Dr. McAllister-Harper teaches the *Organization of Materials (Cataloging)*, *Technical Services Management*, *Subject Analysis*, and *Indexing*, her four regular preparations. She also teaches special courses, such as *Literature of the Humanities*, a bibliographic course for both public and technical services specialties. Her own academic background includes the Ph.D. in library sciences/technical services from the University of Pittsburgh, 1981, the MLS from Atlanta University, 1971, and a BA in French and Spanish from Bennett College, Greensboro, NC, 1962. Prior to joining the NCCU faculty in 1973, Dr. McAllister-Harper was a cataloger at Hampton University, Hampton, VA, managed an educational materials center at Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD, and was a school librarian in Kinston, NC. From January to June of 1986, Dr. McAllister-Harper was a visiting Associate Professor at Drexel University, and during the academic year 1986-87, she was a Fulbright Professor of Library Science at the University of the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica.

Dr. McAllister-Harper is active in professional organizations, having served as a past chair of the Margaret Mann Citation Committee of the Resources and Technical Services Division of the American Library Association, which gives an annual award for contributions in technical services; has served as editor of the Technical Services section of *North Carolina Libraries*; and has published a number of articles, the latest being "Decimal Classification in the Online Environment" due out later this year.

Dr. McAllister-Harper is a widow since 1984. Her late husband, James A. Harper, was an elementary school principal for 44 and 1/2 years in Kinston, NC, until he retired.

In her leisure time, Dr. McAllister-Harper enjoys music, art, and being a spectator at sporting events, especially football. She likes all kinds of music--"as long as it's musical"--including opera, jazz, rock and country. She plays the organ, and has in the past played for church choirs. Her own sporting activity includes weight-lifting which she does for exercise.

She says of her stay at NAL, "It has been pleasant," and her tone of voice brings to mind all one has heard of Southern pleasant living. She said of the NAL staff, "Most people have been very helpful." She found it interesting to compare the flow of information and activity in small organizations such as she has been associated with most of her life, with larger, governmental organizations such as NAL, the Library of Congress, and the sponsors of the Fulbright Program; these larger organizations have "a slower information and activity flow." At one point in her conversation she mentioned a teaching philosophy she emphasizes to prospective catalogers; it seemed to the interviewer that one could substitute for "catalogers" the words "human beings": "Catalogers must focus on people, not on things, to be effective."





Staff Update

JENNIE BROGDON RETIRES

After 18 years at NAL serving the public in a variety of increasingly more important positions, Jennie Brogdon retired on July 1, 1988. She planned and implemented many innovative programs and procedures during her tenure in NAL. Ms. Brogdon has been head of the Reference Branch of the Public Services Division for the last four years, responsible for reference service at NAL, by mail, telephone, and various other communications media, literature searching in NAL's AGRICOLA database and all other accessible databases, and maintenance of the reading rooms. She implemented Reference reorganization for Economics and Marketing in 1984, and for all of Reference in 1987. From 1976 to 1984 she had been head of Utilization, which was responsible for document delivery, including circulation, interlibrary loan, interlibrary borrowing, photocopy services, and some reading room activities. She had worked in a variety of lending and other public services positions from 1970 when she joined the NAL staff.

Before coming to NAL, Ms. Brogdon worked for 12 years as a food technologist in USDA's Human Nutrition Research Division, and for the Entomological Society of America. Ms. Brogdon earned her B.S. in Home Economics, and her M.L.S. at the University of Maryland, the latter in 1970 just before coming to NAL. While she was a student at the University of Maryland, she had also worked in the Agricultural Research Service as a student aide.



photo: J. Swab

JENNIE BROGDON



photo: J. Swab

Jennie Brogdon's mother, Mrs. M. C. Carpenter, was among those who attended Ms. Brogdon's retirement party.

Ms. Brogdon is a miniaturist and a traveler, two very compatible enthusiasms. She is interested in miniature furniture and architectural art in all styles and periods, and combines her enjoyment of traveling with visiting exhibitions of miniatures both throughout the U.S. and abroad. In retirement she plans to catch up on her reading and her own work with miniatures, enter competitions, attend workshops, and do a lot more traveling.

At a retirement party on the afternoon of her last day, a majority of the NAL staff wished Ms. Brogdon well and bon voyage, along with a number of retired staff who had worked with her, and former colleagues from other USDA agencies. In addressing the staff, she thanked all for coming and said, "In the 18 years I have been at NAL we have had some good times and some not so good times, and some bad times when there were not enough resources, but what I will remember are the people I've worked with." She wished everyone well, and she said, "I hope that you find joy in your friends the way I have enjoyed you!"



photo: D. Starr

Among the retired former colleagues of Jennie Brogdon who attended her retirement party were Julia Merrill (L) and Becky Byers (center).

WILLIAM CROSBY RETIRES



photo: D. Starr

BILL CROSBY

Without people like William Crosby, "Bill" as NAL staff know him, the National Agricultural Library would quickly descend to the primitive state of its founding in 1862: catalogers would be reduced to writing with pen and ink on 3 x 5 cards; reference librarians would look up everything in books (help); searchers would wander through the stacks with a candelabrum in one hand and pray to the ghost of

Thomas Jefferson for assistance in finding a book while cursing the cold or the heat and always the dark; this reporter would be back to cutting and pasting and sending handwritten copy to a typesetter to put a newsletter together. During the past dozen years most of the staff of the Library have found it necessary to call Bill to the rescue at one time or another, or to wait until he finished his project before they could begin theirs, for since 1976 Bill has been NAL's electrician.

It is he who put his life on the line to control 26,400 volts times 1500 amps or 39,600,000 watts to deliver enough electricity in enough little packages to keep everything from main-frame computers to pencil sharpeners running, not to mention the light for the operators to see what they are doing.

By his own estimate there are over 300 computers in the NAL building, each with multiples of accessories (printers, modems, etc.), and each requiring its own power which he installed or moved or sometimes moved repeatedly; there are more than 10,000 fluorescent tubes and 2500 incandescent lights, replacement of which kept Bill climbing ladders continuously, ladders which many of the staff would have a problem lifting or setting up. There are an unestimated number of appliances in the NAL building for which Bill

supplied power and sometimes the expertise to get operating, including lettering, labeling, tying, taping, cutting, weighing, and binding machines; xeroxing, filming, recording, digitizing, and videotaping machines; projecting, viewing, playing, typing, wordprocessing, calculating, and communicating machines; refrigerating, microwaving, cooking, and other kitchen machines; fanning, heating, and airconditioning machines (including two 360-ton chillers). This only begins to scratch the surface, for there are all those little necessities the staff brings in to make life bearable from radios and mini-TVs (to sneak a look at the soaps--on lunch break?) to electric blankets to keep the sensitive warm while the computer and everyone else keeps cool. Many-a-time-and-oft did he also stand in for the airconditioning man, the plumber, the telephone company (both monopolized and baby-belled), the butcher, the baker, and the candle-stick maker. He was everyone's favorite bartender at official functions for which a cash bar was approved, and he always grilled hamburgers when the Library had its picnics. He helped when people needed help.

Bill was employed by the Agricultural Research Service for more than 21 years, beginning May 1967, to the present, including the last 12 years at NAL. He also worked for 4 years for HUD. Like many before him, he made a decision to retire early because of the way the government manages positions relative to contract services. He is going back to school to finish his electrical masters license, and he is going to be self-employed, buying into an air-breaker business in Pennsylvania. On the day of his retirement party, he spoke lovingly of raising his son Jason, 15, to full manhood.

As for NAL, Mr. Crosby said almost as affectionately, "This building is like having a baby; like raising a child! It requires constant care; someone must watch over the electrical and air conditioning. Someone has to watch this baby all the time!"

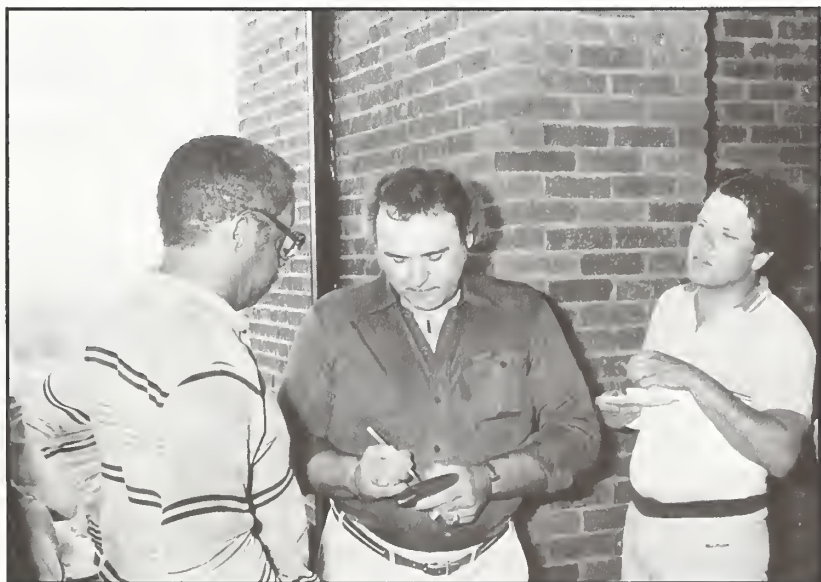


photo: D. Starr

Bill Crosby (center) with two well-wishers at his retirement party, Donald North, library technician, Cataloging (L), and Greg Funkhouser, electrician, ARS, who will be working at NAL after Bill's retirement.



Publications Exchange

SERIAL GAPS

The National Agricultural Library identifies gaps in the national collection through collection maintenance activities and patron requests. We appreciate your donation of the following publications needed to complete collections. If you have questions, call Ruth Finnblade, Gift and Exchange Program, (301) 344-1207.

Send items to:

National Agricultural Library
Gift and Exchange Program/RF, Room 002G
Beltsville, MD 20705

Ecological Research. Japan Ecology Society. Vol. 1 (2), 1986.

Journal. Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists (Great Britain). Vol. 66 (6), 1982; Vol. 67 (4-6), 1983; Vol. 68 (1-6), 1984; Vol. 69 (1,3,6), 1985; Vol. 70 (2), 1986; Vol. 71 (1-2,5), 1987.

Journal of Marriage and the Family. Vol. 41 (1), 1979; Vol. 43 (2-4), 1981; Vols. 44-46, 1982-1984.

Pediatrics. Vol. 77 (1-6), 1986; Vols. 79-80, 1987.

Prace Przemysłowy Instytutu Maszyn Rolniczych. 1984 (1); 1985 (1).

Studies in Organic Chemistry. 1983 (15); 1985 (22); 1986 (24,27).

Techniques Agricoles et Productions Méditerranéennes. Vol. 4, 1984; Vol. 6-7, 1986-1987.

SURPLUS PUBLICATIONS

The National Agricultural Library will make available the following surplus publications to any interested organization that regularly sends free publications to NAL, including most Federal, land-grant, and agricultural research institutions as well as many others. Foreign institutions will need to provide a U.S. mailing address or make other special arrangements with U.S. sources for shipment of material. Listed titles may be requested up to six months following announcement.

If interested, please enclose an addressed label with your request and write to:

National Agricultural Library
Attn: Gift and Exchange/RF, Room 002
Beltsville, MD 20705

Or call Ruth Finnblade, (301) 344-1207.

American Journal of Agricultural Economics. Vol. 50-51, 1968-69.

Australian Journal of Agricultural Research. Vol. 16-30, 1965-79.

Australian Journal of Biological Sciences. Vol. 13-20, 1960-67; 23-24, 1970-71.

Hilgardia. Vol. 1-40, 1925-71.

Journal of Leisure Research. Vol. 1-9, 1969-77.

Land Policy Review. Vol. 1-10, 1938-47.

New Phytologist. Vol. 28-82, 1929-79.

New York Packer. 1906-48 [microfilm only].

Oklahoma Current Farmer Economics. Vol. 45-55, 1972-82.

The Packer. 1947-57 [microfilm only].

Physiologia Plantarum. Vol. 14-41, 1961-77.

Plant Physiology. Vol. 51-85, 1973-87.

Planta. Vol. 76-127, 1967-75.

SURPLUS PUBLICATIONS IN RUSSIAN

Agricultural Ecosystems: Unifying Concepts. Moskva, 1987.

Concentration and Specialization in Forestry. Moskva, 1983.

Fundamentals of Agronomy. Moskva, 1978.

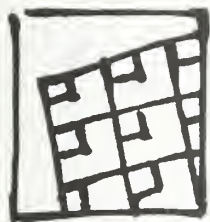
Plant Disease Control. Moskva, 1981.

The Sunflower. Moskva, 1975.

Sweet Cherries. Moskva, 1984.

Water Supply in Agriculture. Moskva, 1981.





Agriculture Datebook

July 17-July 20: American School Food Service Association Conference. San Antonio, Texas. Contact: 202-447-7711.

July 21: National Association of Conservation Districts Pacific Region Meeting. Wasilla, Alaska. Contact: 202-447-4525.

July 24-July 28: Poultry Science Association Annual Meeting. Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Louisiana State University. Contact: PSA, Champaign, IL, 217-356-3181.

July 26-July 29: American Society of Animal Science Annual Meeting. New Brunswick, New Jersey; Rutgers University. Contact: ASAS, Champaign, IL, 217-356-3182.

July 30-August 3: Soil Conservation Society of America Annual Meeting. Columbus, Ohio. Contact: SCSA, Ankeny, IA, 515-289-2331.

July 31-August 3: 43rd Annual Meeting of the Soil and Water Conservation Society. Hyatt Regency Hotel, Columbus, OH. Contact: Alan C. Epps, SWCS, 7515 Northeast Ankeny Road, Ankeny, IA 50021-9764. (515) 289-2331.

July 31 -August 5: 9th World Congress on Animal, Plant and Microbial Toxins. Stillwater, Oklahoma; Oklahoma State University. Contact: Charlotte Ownby, Department of Physiological Sciences, OSU, Stillwater, OK 74078.

August 1: Soil and Water Conservation Society's 43rd Annual Meeting. Columbus, Ohio. Contact: 202-447-4623.

August 2: National Agricultural Pesticide Impact Assessment Program Workshop. Washington, D.C. Contact: 202-447-8885.

August 5-August 6: "1988 Great Lakes Farm Symposium. Ann Arbor, Michigan; Domino's Farms. Co-sponsored by: Michigan State Univ. Cooperative Extension Service. Contact: Farm Symposium, Room 11 Agriculture Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824. Telephone 517-355-0117.

August 5-8: American Soybean Association's Annual Convention. Denver, CO: Convention Complex. Contact: ASA, 1-800-USA-SOYA.

August 6-11: 85th American Society for Horticultural Science (ASHS) Annual Meeting and 33rd Meeting of the Canadian Society for Horticultural Science. Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. Contact: Frank G. Den-

nis, Jr., Program Committee Chairperson, Dept. of Horticulture, Plant and Sciences Bldg., Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1325.

August 7-11: National Farm & Power Equipment Dealers Association Annual Meeting. Vancouver, British Columbia. Contact: NF&PEDA, St. Louis, MO, 314-821-7220.

August 7-12: Annual Meeting of the Society for Industrial Microbiology (SIM). Chicago, Illinois; Hyatt Regency Hotel. Contact: SIM, P.O. Box 12534, Arlington, VA 22209-8534.

August 8-12: International Conifer Tissue Culture Working Group Meeting. Saskatoon, Canada. Contact: D. Dunstan, NRC, 110 Gymnasium Road, Saskatoon, Sask. S7N 0W9, Canada.

August 11-13: International Symposium on Population Genetics and Germplasm Resources in Crop Improvement. Davis, CA. Contact: Jan Reist, Campus Events and Information Office, University of California, Davis, CA 95616, USA, (916) 752-7341.

August 14-18: Thirty-Ninth AIBS Annual Meeting: Biological Diversity, Davis, CA. Contact: Louise Salmon, AIBS, 730 11th St. N.W., Washington, DC 20001. (202) 628-1500.

August 14-19: National Association of County Agricultural Agents 73rd Annual Meeting. Charlotte, NC: Convention Center. Contact: NACAA, Conway, SC. Contact: 803-248-2267, or 202-447-3377.

August 14-19: IVth International Congress of Cell Biology. Montreal, Canada. Contact: Congress Secretariat, Fourth International Congress of Cell Biology, National Research Council of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0R6, Attn: K. Charbonneau, Congress Manager, Tel: (613) 993-9009.

August 15-19: International Conference on Dryland Farming. Amarillo, Texas. Theme: "Past Progress and future Challenges in Dryland Farming--A Global Perspective. Contact: International Conference on Dryland Farming, USDA Conservation and Production Research Lab., P.O. Drawer 10, Bushland, TX 79012 or Contact: 202-447-4525.

August 16-19: 2nd Annual Conference of the Society for Conservation Biology. Davis, CA. Held in conjunction with the AIBS meeting. Contact: Daniel Simberloff, Dept. of Biological Science, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-2043.

August 18-20: Workshop on Alternative Agricultural Enterprises for the Caribbean and Pacific Basins. Ocho Rios, Jamaica, West Indies; Mallards Beach Hotel. Contact: Sherry Harrison, Office of Conferences and Institutes, IFAS Bldg. 639, U. of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611-0551.

(See DATEBOOK, page 14, col. 1)

August 20-27: VI Argentine Veterinary Congress. Buenos Aires, Argentina. Contact: 202-447-7025.

August 20-27: XVI International Congress of Genetics. Toronto, Canada. Contact: L. Forget, Congress Secretariat, Fourth International Congress of Cell Biology, National Research Council of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0R6.

August 24-31: XX International Conference of Agricultural Economists. Buenos Aires, Argentina. Contacts: William Kibler, 202-447-2707 (Washington, DC), Alex McCalla, 916-752-1529 (Davis, CA), Richard L. Moyer, 614-292-8014 (Columbus, OH), and Harold Riley, 517-355-2160 (East Lansing, MI).

August 29-31: 102nd Association of Official Analytical Chemists Annual Meeting. Palm Beach, FL, The Breakers. Contact: AOAC, 1111 North 19th St., Suite 210, Arlington, VA 22209. Tel.: (703) 522-3032.

August 29-31: Second International Symposium on Genetic Manipulation in Crops, Mexico. Contact: D. Winkellmann, CIMMYT, Lisboa 27, Postal 6-641, Col. Juarez Deleg. Cuauhtemoc 06600 Mexico. (595) 421.00/420.11.

September 1: Purdue Swine Day. W. Lafayette, Indiana; Baker-Purdue Animal Sciences Center. Contact: Vern Mayrose, Dept. of Animal Sciences, Lilly Hall, Purdue University W. Lafayette, IN 47907.

September 2-3: Annual Cotton Plant Conference. Cotton Plant, Arkansas. Contact: 202-447-3291.

September 4-9: XVII World's Poultry Congress & Exhibition. Nagoya, Japan. Contact: XVII World's Poultry Congress, c/o International Congress Service Inc., Casho Bldg., 2-14-9 Nihombashi Chuo-Ku, Tokyo, Japan 103.

September 5-8: Fourth International Symposium on Seeds. Angers, France. Contact: A. Chavangnat, INRA-ENITAH 49000, Angers, France.

September 5-9: International Symposium of Horticultural Germplasm, Cultivated and Wild. Beijing, China. Contact: Vegetable Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, 30 Bai Shi Qiao Rd., Beijing, The People's Republic of China.

September 7-10: World Ag Expo. Amana, Iowa. Contact: 202-447-4623.

September 13: International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Meeting. Toronto, Canada. Contact: 202-475-3781.

September 14: American Fisheries Society Symposium. Toronto, Canada. Contact: 202-475-3781.

September 15-19: FIAGA '88. Republic of Panama. Contact: Carol V. de Montenegro, International Fair of Agriculture, Cattle, Fish & Food, Centro de Soluciones, S.A. (Panama Interfair), P.O. Box 5262, Panama 5, Panama.

September 18-21: Corn Refiners Association Conference. St. Louis, Missouri; Marriott Pavilion Hotel. Contact: Corn Refiners Association, 202-331-1634.

September 19-20: Veterinary Perspectives on Genetically-Engineered Animals Forum. Washington, DC; Mayflower Hotel. Contact: American Veterinary Medical Assn., 202-659-2040.

September 19-23: International Conference on Sustainable Agricultural Systems. Columbus, Ohio; Raddison Hotel. Contact: Olive Edwards, Dept. of Entomology, The Ohio State University, 1735 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43210.

September 20-21: Biotechnica '88 (4th International Congress & Exhibition for Biotechnology). Hannover, West Germany; Hannover Fairgrounds. Contact: Hannover Fairs USA, Inc., 103 Carnegie Center, Princeton, NJ 08540.

September 21-25: International Congress of Plant Tissue Culture-Tropical Species, Bogota, Colombia. Contact: Congress Secretariat, Aptdo. Aereo No. 057303, Bogota, Colombia.

September 25-28: Annual Conference of the Council for Responsible Nutrition. Hilton Head Island, South Carolina; Hotel Intercontinental. Theme: "Practical Applications of Health Messages". Contact: CRN, 202-872-1488.

September 25-28: Assn. of Official Analytical Chemists 103rd Annual International Meeting and Exposition. St. Louis, Missouri; Clarion Hotel. Contact: AOAC, 1111 N. 19th St., Suite 210, Arlington, VA 22209.

September 25-28: National Agricultural Chemicals Association Annual Meeting. White Sulphur Springs, WV; The Greenbrier Hotel. Contact: NACA, Washington, DC. Tel.: (202) 296-1585.

September 25-28: International Symposium, on Botanical Gardens. Nanjing Botanical Garden Mem. Sun Yat-sen, Jiangsu Province, the People's Republic of China.

September 25-30: 196th American Chemical Society Meeting & Exposition. Los Angeles, CA, Los Angeles Convention Center. Contact: ACS, 1155 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036. Tel.: (202) 872-4485.

September 25-30: Guayule Rubber Society Annual Meeting. Mesa, AZ. Contact: Francis Nakayama, U.S. Water Conservation Laboratory, 4331 E. Broadway, Phoenix, AZ 85040.





ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATES MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1988

The Associates of the National Agricultural Library, Inc., will hold its Annual Meeting on Monday, September 12, 1988, at the Holiday Inn, Grand

Ball Room, Route U.S. 1, Beltsville, Maryland.

The meeting will be preceded by a cash bar at 11:30 a.m., Luncheon at Noon or shortly thereafter, and a short business meeting following lunch. The luncheon entre will be Chicken Breast "Cordon Bleu," and will be accompanied by salad, vegetables, potato or rice, rolls and butter, dessert, and coffee, tea, etc. The luncheon price is \$12.75. Please make checks payable to

the *Associates NAL, Inc.* Persons wishing to make reservations and payments in person, please contact Helen Kondilas on the 14th Floor or Rita Spencer, Room 303. Others please send reservations and payments to the address on the form below. Please make reservations by the close of business, Tuesday, September 6th.



Dr. Sperling has traveled throughout the Andes and Amazon exploring for and collecting crop plants and their wild relatives. He has also traveled through the Near East collecting wheat, other cereals, legumes, and their wild relatives.



The speaker for the occasion will be Dr. Calvin Sperling of the Germplasm Services Laboratory, Plant Sciences Institute, Agricultural Research Service. His topic will be "Andean Crops and Their Potential for Other Areas of the World." In his slide presentation, Dr. Sperling will cover tuber crops, other than the most well known--potato; grains, including high protein grains or pseudo cereals, for example, amaranth and quinoa; tree tomato; pepino; Andean papaya; Andean lupine or tarwi; and others. Most of these were known and cultivated by the Incas, and many were suppressed by the Spanish when they conquered the Andes civilizations.



RESERVATION FORM FOR THE ASSOCIATES NAL ANNUAL LUNCHEON, SEPTEMBER 12, 1988

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TELEPHONE _____

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STRAIN MEMORIAL GIFT



photo: D. Starr

On May 23, 1988, Mr. and Mrs. John Strain of Woodbridge, Virginia, made a family memorial gift to the National Agricultural Library in honor of the Late Dr. John C. Huttar, Sr., who was inducted into the Poultry Hall of Fame in 1974. In the photograph above Mr. and Mrs. Strain sign a paper relating to the monetary gift.

Portraits of the members of the Poultry Hall of Fame are located at the National Agricultural Library, and are hung in the corridors of the second floor of the NAL Building, where the public may view them.

AGRICULTURAL LIBRARIES INFORMATION NOTES

(ISSN 0095-2699)

provides a channel of communication to technical information specialists, librarians, extension workers, researchers, and scientists on agricultural information activities.

Joseph N. Swab, Editor.

Idalia Acosta, New Serials Editor.

Ruth Finnblade, Publications Exchange Editor.

Daniel Starr, Photographer.

[(301)-344-3937]